



**2006**

**ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)**

**ALAMOSA ALLOTMENT # 00201**

Table 1-Alamosa Allotment

**Alamosa Livestock Association  
Alfonso Chacon Jr.**

**Steve Chavez  
Anselmo Gallegos**

**Belinda Vasquez & Julian Gallegos  
Jose E. Gallegos  
Antonio S. Griego  
Thomas L. Griego  
Mrs. Tomas Griego  
Nerio N. & Alice M. Gurule  
Fidelia Jaramillo**

**The Martinez Family Trust  
Horacio D., Ronald H., or Martin K.  
Martinez**

**Carlos B. & Jimmy J. Ortega  
Manuel Pena**

**Dan Jr. & Albinita G. Rael  
Isaac & Annabelle Suazo  
Danny Vigil  
Jose R. Zamora**

**CARSON NATIONAL FOREST  
EL RITO RANGER DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Permittee or Association President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Ranger, El Rito

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTION (AOI)

### INTRODUCTION

This AOI is in reference to the discussion you had with Ezequiel Rael, Craig Newman and Diana Trujillo on February 22, 2006. The authorized eartag color is "*red*".

#### List of Permittees 1

Permittee Name	Permitted		Authorized		Comments
	#	Season	#	Season	
Alamosa Livestock Grazing Association	20 bulls	5/1 – 10/31	14 bulls	5/1 – 10/31	
Alfonso Chacon Jr.	54 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	50 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	Plans to hold cows off allotment for 20 days.
Steve Chavez	14 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	4 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Belinda Vasquez & Julian Gallegos	11 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	10 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Jose E. Gallegos	18 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	Non-use		
Antonio S. Griego	67 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	63 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Thomas L. Griego	65 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	60 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Mrs. Tomas Griego	10 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	10 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Nerio N. & Alice M. Gurule	35 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	25 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Fidelia Jaramillo	9 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	6 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
The Martinez Family Trust	24 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	8 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Horacio D., Ronald H. or Martin K. Martinez	16 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	16 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	Plans to hold cows off allotment for 30 days
Carlos B. & Jimmy J. Ortega	51 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	51 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Manuel Pena	8 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	8 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Dan Jr. & Albinita G. Rael	4 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	4 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Isaac & Annabelle Suazo	28 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	27 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	Plans to hold cows off allotment for 30 days
Danny Vigil	19 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	12 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	
Jose R. F. Zamora	7 c/c	5/1 – 10/31	Non-use		
<b>TOTAL</b>	460 Head	5/1-10/31	354 c/c 14 bulls	5/1 – 10/31	20% total reduction in numbers

**As of today, the lack of significant precipitation this winter has led to projections of continued drought in this area. Past experience with drought has resulted in low forage production and water availability. In order to help you plan for the worse case scenario, we anticipate an approximate 30% overall reduction in livestock numbers on the allotment. If conditions improve**



**between now and May, we may allow more livestock to go on to the allotment. On the other hand, if conditions become worse, the percentage could increase. It is also highly probable that allowable use standards will be reached before the scheduled end date for the allotment. Forage conditions will need to be monitored much more closely as the season progresses. Range readiness inspections will be scheduled for late April to determine if the entry pastures are ready for grazing. Your participation is welcome and encouraged.**

**"Compliance with NM Statewide Regulations, NMAC 21.30.6 Bovine Trichomoniasis, effective June 17, 2005 hereby becomes a term and condition of the USFS grazing permit."**

Season dates are dependant on range readiness inspections.

Nonuse of a term permit must be requested in written form for all of the permitted numbers (Total Nonuse or part of the permitted numbers Partial Nonuse). Verbal applications will not be accepted. Any Non-use may be recorded as Resource Protection for the 2006 grazing season.

All livestock must be scheduled for counting prior to entering the Alamosa Allotment. The El Rito range personnel must be notified 5 days prior to the time livestock enter or leave the Forest. A five-day grace period will be allowed for removal of stray(s) permitted cattle from the allotment.

If a permittee elects to request "total nonuse" he/she is still responsible for maintenance of assigned range improvements.

A credit/refund application must be completed within a week after placing livestock late on the allotment or removing livestock early. A credit/refund is not automatic but must be requested in writing by the permittee(s) and approved by the District Ranger.

The key to the number of livestock authorized is fence maintenance and compliance with pasture rotations. Without such action, the number of livestock authorized for the 2006 Grazing Season will be reduced.

**ROTATION SCHEDULE**

**Initial distribution of your livestock is tentatively planned as follows (actual dates will be based on range readiness):**

Summer Use 1

La Madera Pasture*	Revegetated area may need to be rested another year. Will be determined during range readiness inspection.	05/01 – 06/01 Actual dates dependant on Range Readiness inspection.
Posos/Alamosa Pasture		06/01 – 07/31
Borracho Pasture		08/01 – 09/30
Posos/Alamosa Pasture		10/01 – 10/31



Total removal of all livestock from the pasture/allotment is mandatory. A five day grace period will be allowed to remove stray(s) permitted livestock from the allotment.

**FORAGE UTILIZATION STANDARDS**

Forage utilization will be measure in key areas. Proper utilization of forage is a critical factor in livestock management on the Alamosa Allotment.

Within the Alamosa Allotment the key forage species are:

Table 2 – Forage Utilization Standards

Pasture Name	Key Forage Species	Stubble Height
La Madera East/West Pastures	Western Wheat	4 – 5”
	Blue Grama	2 – 2.5”
	Black Grama	4 – 5”
	Crested Wheatgrass	4 – 5.5”
Posos/Alamosa Pasture	AZ/Thurber Fescue	6 – 7”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 5”
	Mt. Muhly	4 – 5”
	Oat Grasses	8 – 10”
Borracho Pasture	AZ/Thurber Fescue	6 – 7”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 5”
	Oat Grasses	8 – 10”
Riparian Areas	Red Top	4 – 6”
	Kentucky Blue	4 – 6”
	Sedges	4 – 6”

**MONITORING**

Monitoring will be conducted using a combination of monitoring techniques including, but not limited to, paired cages, photo points, Rapid Assessment Method, and permittee monitoring. Permittees are invited and encouraged to accompany Forest Service Range staff in the field while range condition evaluations are being made. Field inspections will be conducted to monitor allowable use, and movement of livestock. Both the Forest Service and the permittee are responsible for monitoring use and stubble height on the allotment to manage within specified utilization standards. Once allowable use is achieved, livestock must be moved into the next scheduled pasture or off the allotment. The length of season depends on the intensity of management and cooperation between permittees on livestock distribution and moving from pasture to pasture.

If areas within a pasture or the pasture as a whole begin to approach the identified stubble heights, then the remaining key areas will also be monitored and the pasture inspected to determine overall use patterns. This information will be used to determine if cattle need to be re-distributed within the pasture or removed from the pasture.

Monitoring items such as distribution patterns, range readiness, cattle numbers, forage use levels, salting practices, and condition of improvements will also be evaluated. Regular herding and riding practices are the key to achieving proper livestock distribution on the allotment, and to provide for the fullest use



of the grazing season. Salt must be placed out of bottoms, away from water, roads, forest system trails, and recreational sites.

### **IMPROVEMENT MAINTENANCE**

The following projects are proposed for the next three years with the Upper Rio Vallecitos 319(h) Grant:

- Earthen Dam – South of Borracho on FR106
- Earthen Dam – Bancos East of Alamosa Drainage
- Guzzler (10,000 gallon) in Ancones area.
- 1.5 mile Watershed ABF – to be done with help of YCC crew
- 3 mile fence on Wilson Hill
- 60' x 60' pipe corral

### **FENCE MAINTENANCE**

Assigned fences and water developments in the “*entry pasture*” must be maintained and determined to be in good functioning condition prior to the entry date. All other pasture fences and waters must be maintained prior to livestock movement into the next scheduled pasture.

An inspection of your allotment prior to the entry date will be made to determine if maintenance is adequate.

### **ALLOTMENT STATUS**

At the present time direction for management on the allotment is being documented in the AOIs.

According to the Carson Forest Plan implementation schedule, an Allotment Management Plan update, developed using the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, has been scheduled for the year 2008.

Open and positive communication is encouraged. Feel free to contact the range personnel if you have any questions or problems. They will be happy to discuss allotment management, on the ground status, Forest Plan standards and guidelines, and possible changes in allotment management.

### **APPEAL STATEMENT**

This AOI is hereby made a part of your Term Grazing Permit

This decision is subject to administrative review, pursuant to 36 CFR 251; and any appeal of this decision must be fully consistent with 36 CFR 251.90. In accordance with 36 CFR 251.84, if you file an appeal, I am willing to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have with my decision. If you file an appeal, you may request an oral presentation in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.97). Additionally, if you file an appeal, you may request a stay of my decision in the appeal or at any time prior to closing of the appeal record (36 CFR 251.91).



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Southwestern  
Region 3  
Carson National  
Forest  
El Rito Ranger  
District

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A notice of appeal must be filed with Martin Chavez, Forest Supervisor, Carson National Forest, 208 Cruz Alta, Taos, New Mexico 87571, within 45 days of the date of this decision. A copy of the notice of appeal must be filed simultaneously with Diana Trujillo, District Forest Ranger, who was the deciding officer and the address for mailing the appeal copy is P. O. Box 56, El Rito, New Mexico 87530.

I would appreciate if you contact me and together we can try to resolve disagreements before you file any Notice of Appeal. I value your experience and knowledge of the allotment. If we cannot reach an agreement, you may exercise your appeal rights. This will insure that we both understand the reasons for each others position regarding any issues. I look forward to working with you this season. I am confident that together we will work effectively to manage the range resources in a manner that reflects good stewardship for the land and cattle alike.